

**CITY OF NEDERLAND  
ELECTRICAL ORDINANCE**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2005-07**

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 229 AND ENACTING, IN LIEU THEREOF, A NEW ORDINANCE REGULATING ELECTRICAL WORK IN THE CITY OF NEDERLAND, TEXAS; ADOPTING THE 2005 VERSION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE AS ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION; DEFINING CERTAIN TERMS; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ORDINANCE, AND THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, AND ESTABLISHING CERTAIN FEES; PROVIDING FOR SPECIFICATIONS, MATERIALS, AND METHODS OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS; REQUIRING AND REGULATING LICENSES FOR MASTER, JOURNEYMAN, MASTER SIGN, AND MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIANS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDED FOR REPEAL; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEDERLAND, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1:** That Ordinances No. 229 No. 229A, No. 229C, No. 229D and No. 415, § 1, which have been codified in the Code of Ordinances, Sec. 18-201 through 18-300 are repealed.

**SECTION 2:** That the Code of Ordinances, ARTICLE VI. ELECTRICITY, is hereby amended by adding new Sec. 18-201 through Sec. 18-241, which reads as follows:

**DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

**Section 18-201 Definitions.**

As used in this ordinance the following definitions shall apply:

*Approved or approval:* Approved by the Chief Building Official. National, state, and City standards shall be the basis of such approval.

*Conductor:* A wire or cable or other form of metal suitable for carrying electrical current or potential.

*Electrical construction:* All work and material used in installing, maintaining, or extending a system of electrical wiring, and all appurtenances, apparatus, and equipment used in connection therewith, inside of or attached to any building or structure, lot, or premises.

*Electrical contractor:* Any person or firm engaged in the business of providing and selling electrical services. He shall have a permanently established place of business with a published telephone number. He shall hold a "master electrician's" certificate or shall employ an individual who does and carry him on his active payroll. A master electrician may not qualify more than one contractor. He shall be available to the inspection authority to answer any questions relating to electrical work coming under the jurisdiction of this electrical inspection authority.

*Equipment:* Conductors, materials, fittings, devices, appliances, fixtures, signs, apparatus, motors, and the like, used as a part of or in connection with any electrical installation.

*Journeyman electrician:* Any person who is employed by an electrical contractor, works under the supervision of a master electrician, and who holds an electrical journeyman's license with the State of Texas to do electrical work for wages and who does not furnish any materials or supplies in the performance of his work.

*Journeyman Sign Electrician:* Any person who is employed by a master sign electrician to install signs for wages and who does not furnish any materials and supplies in the performance of his work and who holds an electrical journeyman sign electrician's license with the State of Texas.

*Maintenance and repair:* The act of keeping in a state of safe operating condition any conductor or piece of equipment used inside or outside, attached or connected to any building electrical system, by replacement of units or elements thereof, but shall not include extensions of or additions to an existing system or branch thereof.

*Maintenance electrician:* An electrician regularly employed on a permanent basis by any person and who performs work only in the confines of the building or in or on the premises where he is regularly employed on a permanent basis, and who does maintenance work as defined in the paragraph "maintenance and repair" and who holds a maintenance electrician's license with the State of Texas.

*Master electrician:* Any person who is, by training, experience, and education, competent to lay out, design, and install a system of wiring for light, heat, or power and who holds a master electrician's license with the State of Texas.

*Master sign electrician:* A person who holds himself out to the public to contract for himself, or through others, manufactures, installs, connects, re-connects, or services electric signs, or any cold cathode or neon gas tubing, inside or outside of whatever description or for any purpose and is qualified. The master sign electrician must hold a master sign electrician's license from the State of Texas. Sign contractors who employ registered sign electricians may run circuits to the sign if the sign require two (2) circuits or less. If three (3) or more circuits are required for the sign, these circuits must be installed by a master electrician or a journeyman electrician working directly under the direction of a master electrician.

*Outside electrical work:* The installing, maintaining, altering, repairing, or erecting of any electrical wiring, apparatus, devices, appliances, fixtures, or equipment located outside of and separate from buildings and on poles, towers, or other structures designed or constructed to be used exclusively for the support of such electrical wiring, apparatus, devices, appliances, fixtures, or equipment for which a permit is required under the terms of this code, except that overhead conductors may be attached to buildings.

*Person:* An individual, association, partnership, corporation, or other entity.

*Plant electrician:* Any person holding a master electrician's license, who is carried on the active payroll of a firm, co-partnership, or corporation for the purpose of performing or supervising the performance of electrical work on the property of his employer. He shall be available to the Chief Building Official or his designated representative to answer any questions relating to electrical work coming under the jurisdiction of this electrical authority.

*Registrant:* That person who has a current Texas Electrical license and the proper amount of liability insurance required by the State of Texas and has paid the necessary registration fees to date, and that his name is carried in the records of the Chief Building Official as a person authorized to do electrical work as defined in this ordinance.

*Responsible person:* The person that is responsible for installing electrical wiring and/or equipment in a structure. This would include a licensed electrician doing residential or commercial work as well as a homeowner doing work on his own homestead.

#### **Section 18-202. Purpose of ordinance.**

The purpose of this ordinance is the practical safeguarding of persons, and buildings and their contents, from electrical hazards arising from the improper use of electricity.

#### **Section 18-203. Scope of ordinance.**

(a) The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all installations of and work done on electrical conductors, fittings, devices, motors, controls, appliances, fixtures, electronic devices, signs and gaseous tubing, herein referred to as electrical equipment, within or on public and private buildings and premises with exceptions as provided herein.

(b) On all installations of electrical conductors or equipment hereafter made, and all existing installations which are altered, or for which the use has changed, all work shall be done in a manner that will conform with the requirements for a sufficient and safe electrical structure and system under this ordinance.

(c) Repair and maintenance work shall be such that if any electrical conductor or equipment is removed and later replaced, same shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

**Section 18-204. Applicability of ordinance -public utilities.**

The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to installations made or used by agencies in the generation, transmission or distribution of electricity, or for the operation of railways, signal or transmission of intelligence when located within or on buildings, enclosures, or premises used exclusively by such agency or on public thoroughfare; provided, however, such agencies excepted are operating under a valid franchise agreement with the City.

**Section 18-205. Signs and gaseous tubing.**

This ordinance shall apply to all forms of electrical signs, gaseous tubing, and outline lighting conductors and equipment. All sign structures, attachments to buildings and foundations shall be approved by the Chief Building Official as set forth in sections covering the construction and erection of signs in the building code prior to inspection under this ordinance.

**Section 18-206. Use of aluminum wiring-prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful for any person within the City to install aluminum wiring in any residential structure or install aluminum wiring smaller than # 4AWG in any commercial structure.

**Section 18-207. Equipment standards generally.**

- (a) All electrical equipment installed or used shall be reasonably safe as determined by the Chief Building Official, to persons and property in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance, the applicable statutes of the state and any rules or regulations issued by authority thereof.
- (b) Conformity of electrical equipment with the applicable standards of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., shall be prima facie evidence that such equipment is reasonable safe to persons and property.
- (c) Only standard parts and materials approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or by the Chief Building Official shall be permitted in electrical repairs or maintenance work.

**DIVISION 2. ADMINISTRATION**

**Section 18-209. Registration; Chief Building Official**

(a) Effective September 1, 2004, all master electricians, journeyman electricians, master sign electricians, and maintenance electricians doing residential or commercial wiring in the City of Nederland shall be required to hold a valid Texas state electrical license and be currently registered with the City.

(b) The Chief Building Official shall have the power to suspend or revoke the registration of any electrician who is found guilty of:

- (1) The practice of any fraud or deceit in obtaining such license;
- (2) Taking out electrical permits in the name of some person authorized by law to do electrical work and thereafter permitting a person without a proper license to do the work;

- (3) Any gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the performance of electrical work within the jurisdiction of the City under this ordinance.

(c) Conviction under the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed just cause for the revocation of the City registration which such person must have under the provisions of this ordinance in order to work in the City. Any registration being revoked shall be for a period that shall be determined by the Construction Board of Appeals. Reinstatement shall be contingent upon payment of all current registration fees. The decision of the Construction Board of Appeals shall be final, subject however to such remedy as any aggrieved party might have at law or in equity.

#### **Section 18-210.1. Decision of the Chief Building Official; Appeals**

The owner of the building, structure or service system, or his duly authorized agent, may appeal a decision of the Chief Building Official to the Construction Board of Appeals whenever any one of the following conditions are claimed to exist:

1. The Chief Building Official rejected or refused to approve the mode or manner of construction proposed to be followed or materials to be used in the installation or alteration of a building, structure or service system.
2. The provisions of this ordinance do not apply to this specific case.
3. That an equally good or more desirable form of installation can be employed in any specific case.
4. The true intent and meaning of this ordinance or any of the regulations there under have been misconstrued or incorrectly interpreted; or
5. The Chief Building Official denies, suspends, or revokes any permit, registration, or license authorized by this ordinance.

#### **Section 18-210.2. Variances.**

The Construction Board of Appeals, when so appealed to and after a hearing, may vary the application of any provision of this ordinance to any particular case when, in its opinion, the enforcement thereof would do manifest injustice and would be contrary to the spirit and purpose of this or the technical codes or public interest, and also finds all of the following:

1. That special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the building, structure or service system involved and which are not applicable to others.
2. That the special conditions and circumstances do not result from the action or inaction of the applicant.
3. That the variance granted is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the building, structure or service system.
4. That the grant of the variance will be in harmony with the general intent and purpose of this ordinance and will not be detrimental to the public health, safety and general welfare.

#### **Section 18-210.3. Conditions of the variance.**

In granting the variance, the Construction Board of Appeals may prescribe a reasonable time limit within which the action for which the variance is required shall be commenced or completed or both. In addition, the Construction Board of Appeals may prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards in conformity with this ordinance. Violation of the conditions of a variance shall be deemed a violation of this ordinance.

#### **Section 18-210.4. Notice of Appeal**

Notice of appeal shall be in writing to the Construction Board of Appeals and filed within 30 calendar days after the decision is rendered by the Chief Building Official. Appeals shall be in a form acceptable to the Chief Building Official.

**Section 18-210.5. Unsafe or dangerous buildings or service systems.**

In the case of a building, structure or service system which, in the opinion of the Chief Building Official, is unsafe, or dangerous, the Chief Building Official may, in his order, limit the time for such appeals to ten calendar days or less.

**Section 18-210.6. Decisions.**

The Construction Board of Appeals shall meet within 30 calendar days after notice of appeal has been received. They shall, in every case, reach a decision without unreasonable or unnecessary delay. Each decision of the Construction Board of Appeals shall also include the reasons for the decision. If a decision of Construction Board of Appeals reverses or modifies a refusal, order, or disallowance of the Chief Building Official or varies the application of any provision of this ordinance, the Chief Building Official shall immediately take action in accordance with such decision. Every decision shall be promptly filed in writing in the office of the City Clerk and shall be open to public inspection. A certified copy of the decision shall be sent by mail or otherwise to the appellant. Every decision of the Construction Board of Appeals shall be final, subject however to such remedy as any aggrieved party might have at law or in equity..

**Section 18-211. Violations and penalties.**

A person or entity who violates a provision of this ordinance is guilty of a separate offense for each day or part of a day during which the violation is committed, continued, or permitted. Each offense, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine not to exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).

**DIVISION 3. ELECTRICIANS**

**Section 18-212. Registration/license required; false representations of registration.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of installing maintaining, altering or repairing any wiring, fixtures or equipment used for the conducting of electricity for which a permit is required by this ordinance, or to in any manner undertake to execute such work, unless such person is the holder of a State of Texas electrical license and a registration from the City as required by this ordinance.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to falsely represent himself as a licensed electrician of any class set forth in this ordinance or to use the words "electrical contractor," "master electrician," or "electrician," or words of similar import or meaning, on signs, cards, stationery, or by any other manner whatsoever, unless such person is properly licensed by the state of Texas within the meaning of this ordinance.

**Section 18-213. Registration classification.**

There shall be four (4) classes of State electrical licenses accepted by the City requiring registration and a fee. These are:

- (1) Master electrician;
- (2) Master Sign electrician;
- (3) Journeyman electrician;
- (4) Maintenance electrician.

**Section 18-214. Registration; fees; issuance.**

Each State licensed electrician wishing to register to do electrical work in the City of Nederland shall submit the required registration fee, a copy of their electrical license, and a copy of their liability insurance certificate to the Inspection Department.

The following fees shall be applicable in this ordinance:

Classification	Registration	Annual Renewal	Liability Insurance
Master Electrician	\$50.00	\$25.00	As required by State law
Master Sign Electrician	50.00	25.00	As required by State law
Journeyman Electrician	5.00	5.00	none
Maintenance Electrician	5.00	5.00	none

**Section 18-215. License required; issuance deemed registration.**

Upon presentation to the Chief Building Official of the appropriate license from the State of Texas and after applicant has paid to the City the fees prescribed in this ordinance, and furnish a copy of their insurance certificate, if required herein, such applicant shall be considered registered with the City within the meaning of this ordinance. Master Electricians that have been certified through the Southeast Texas Regional Electrical Certification Board and have a current \$2,000 City bond can pull permits within the City of Nederland as allowed by Section 1305.201 of the State of Texas Electricians Occupations Code.

**Section 18-216 Registration renewal.**

(a) Annual renewal of the City registration shall be accomplished by submitting the renewal fee and, if required, a copy of their renewed liability insurance certificate.

(b) The annual renewal fee shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for Master electricians and Master Sign electricians and five (\$5.00) for Journeymen, and Maintenance electricians.

(c) Annual renewal fees are due September 1 and payable before September 31 of each year. License holders who have not paid their annual renewal fee will not be permitted to perform work or be issued permits until the fees are paid in full.

**Section 18-217. License transferability; signing.**

A license registration shall not be transferable and shall be issued to the person examined by the State of Texas and named on the license and known as the holder of the license.

**Section 18-218. Unauthorized use of license.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to lend, rent, or transfer his State electrical license, city registration, or any rights to any other person, and for any person to make use of any such rights which are not actually his own.

**Section 18-219. Master electrician's office.**

Every Master electrician, if he qualifies as an electrical contractor as prescribed under Section 1305.159 of the Texas Occupations Code, must have and maintain an established place of business and shall either have a person in attendance or have an answering service to receive messages from the City or other persons concerned during regular business hours. A Master electrician can represent and acquire permits for no more than one electrical business.

**Section 18-220. Supervision of work.**

In the actual work of installing, maintaining, altering, or repairing of any electrical conductors or equipment for which a permit is required by this ordinance, there shall be present and in direct supervision a qualified electrician of the proper classification as determined by this ordinance. It shall be required that a Master electrician or Master Sign electrician, as the case may be, be liable and responsible for the layout and technical supervision of any work which has required the securing of permits and journeyman electrician shall not supervise at the job site more than three (3) apprentices. Should it come to the notice of the Chief Building Official or his assistants that such supervision and control are not being maintained, the Chief Building Official may order the work to be discontinued and the person to whom the permit has been issued shall discontinue further work until proper supervision has been employed or supplied as verified by the Chief Building Official.

**DIVISION 4. PERMITS**

**Section 18-221. Required; to whom issued; exemption.**

(a) Permits shall be issued to Master electricians or Master Sign electricians qualified to secure permits, as set forth in this ordinance, or to their duly authorized agent. The Master electrician or Master Sign electrician shall certify their duly authorized agent to the Building Official in the form of an affidavit stating that such Master or Master Sign electrician assumes all and full responsibility for any permit taken out or applied for by such agent.

(b) When one Master electrician or Master Sign electrician completes the rough work, in whole or in part, or does any electrical wiring or installation of fixtures or equipment and a second Master electrician or Master Sign electrician is called upon to complete the work, in whole or in part, a separate permit is required for which regular fees shall be paid for the work done. Each Master or Master Sign electrician shall be held responsible only for the work installed by him. Before the second Master electrician or Master Sign electrician is issued a permit for the completion of an electrical wiring or installation of fixtures or equipment job, the Chief Building Official shall first attempt to notify the Master electrician or Master Sign electrician holding the original or first permit that the second permit is to be issued. The issuance of the second permit shall cancel the first permit and no refund of fees shall be made.

(c) Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent a person from doing electrical work himself on his own residence, which is owned and occupied, or to be occupied by him immediately upon completion of such residence, so long as he complies with all of the other provisions of this ordinance. This exception shall be construed to mean an individual owner (not a firm, co-partnership, or corporation) who actually does the labor himself. This individual owner shall be present at the time of any electrical inspection. Electrical work on rent property shall be performed by a licensed and bonded Master electrician or a Journeyman electrician working directly under the direction of a Master electrician.

**Section 18-222. Application; scope of permit requirements.**

(a) Every person who shall install, cause to be installed, or permit to be installed, any electrical wiring, fixtures or equipment or shall make any alteration, addition, change or repair within the scope of this ordinance shall, before commencement of such work, make application for a permit therefore with the Chief Building Official.

(b) There shall be one permit for each building for which rough work for electrical wiring, fixtures, or electrical equipment is installed. Accessory buildings, tourist cottages, or group houses shall not be considered separate buildings when the work is to be installed as one complete project and at one time, except where separate switches or meter loops are installed thereon.

(c) Application for permits shall be made in writing upon forms provided by the City for that purpose. With such application there shall be filed a diagram or plan in such a format as required by the Chief Building Official showing clearly the character and kind of wiring or installation of fixtures or equipment work to be done. The plan or diagram shall show the manner in which the electrical installation is to be made, or the character of any repairs to any existing electric installation. Such application shall include the following information:

- (1) Street and house number;
- (2) Name of the owner;
- (3) Type of construction and use of buildings and
- (4) A list of electrical fixtures and appliances to be installed.

(d) The diagram or plans, and application, shall be referred to the Chief Building Official who shall have the authority to issue or refuse to issue a permit.

(e) Plans for buildings of more than five thousand (5,000) square feet, based on exterior dimensions or more than two (2) stories in height, shall bear the seal and signature of a professional electrical engineer licensed in the State of Texas.

**Section 18-223. Fees.**

Payment of permit fees shall be made prior to the issuance of a permit, and shall be based on the schedule of fees herein set out:

(1) **Fee schedule.**

(a) Service up to 200 amperes	\$11.00
over 200 amperes	\$25.00
(b) Each additional meter	2.75
(c) Each outlet, switch and receptacle	0.25
(d) Fixtures	0.25
(e) Bells, buzzers and chimes	1.10
(f) Range	2.00
(g) Water heater	2.00
(h) Dishwasher	1.10
(i) Disposal	1.10
(j) Attic fan	1.10
(k) Dryer	2.20
(l) Yard lamp, each	1.10
(m) Room air conditioner outlet	2.20
(n) Space heating (each), furnace	5.00
(o) Each motor up to five (5) HP	2.20
(p) Each motor over five (5) HP	2.75
(q) Electrical signs	15.00
(r) Light and power panels except at point of service, (sub-panels) each	7.50
(s) Each rectifier or transformer	5.00
(t) Elevators, dumbwaiters, escalators	8.25
(u) Gasoline pumps	3.30
(v) Floodlight poles	1.10
(w) Welding machine outlet	2.20
(x) Change service	11.00
(y) Temporary service on pole	11.00
(z) Re-inspection	15.00
(aa) Move meter	11.00
(bb) Minimum on any electrical permit	11.00
(cc) Re-inspection for lights or name change	11.00
(dd) Swimming pool	15.00
** (ee) After hours inspection- per inspection	55.00

**\*\*When an inspection is required by the owner or contractor before 8:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m. on normal business days, or on weekends and holidays this fee shall apply.**

**Where fees are not set up herein, the Building Official shall set fees that are consistent with the fees listed above not to exceed \$25.00.**



(2) *Outlet.* The term "outlet" shall mean and be construed as any point on a wiring system at which a switch is installed or electricity is taken from a circuit for light, power, or any other purpose or service.

(3) *Outlet addition, outlet extension.* The term "outlet addition" or "outlet extension" shall mean and be construed as any outlet installation made over and above the number as requested in the permit or as shown on the plans for new construction, or outlet installation extending from or added to old existing circuits, respectively.

(4) *Horsepower grouping.* Permit applications covering the installation of meters on any job shall specify each motor individually and no grouping of horsepower shall be permitted.

#### **Section 18-224. Expiration.**

If electrical wiring or installation of fixtures or equipment work authorized under a permit is not started within sixty (60) calendar days after issuance of such permit, or if the work is started and then discontinued and the work remains discontinued without justifiable cause as determined by the Chief Building Official for a period of sixty (60) calendar days, the permit shall become void, and no work shall be done on the premises until a new permit is issued and all necessary fees paid. No refunds shall be made for permits that have become void.

#### **Section 18-225. Cancellation.**

The Building Official shall have the right to declare a permit null and void if there has been misrepresentation of facts or any violation of the provisions of this ordinance.

### **DIVISION 5. STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS**

#### **Section 18-226. Responsibility for safe work, liability of City for damages.**

The electrical regulations of this ordinance shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility or liability of any person owning, operating or installing electrical conductors, devices, appliances, fixtures, apparatus, motors or equipment, for damages to persons or buildings caused by any defect therein by reason of the inspection herein authorized or the certificate of approved inspection issued by the Chief Building Official as herein provided; nor shall the City be held liable for any damages that occurred from the action taken by the Chief Building Official in connection with the performance of his duties.

#### **Section 18-227. Installation standards generally; adoption of code.**

(a) All installations of electrical wiring and equipment shall be reasonably safe to persons and property and in conformity with the provisions of this Code, the applicable statutes of the state, and any rules or regulations issued by authority thereof.

(b) The 2002 version of the National Electric Code as adopted and approved by the National Fire Protection Association, and future revisions, a copy of which has been approved by the City Council, is hereby adopted and declared operative as the electrical code ("Code") of the City, with the additions, insertions, deletions, and amendments as provided in this ordinance. The provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail over the National Electrical Code in case of a direct conflict. Conformity of electrical installations with the applicable standards set forth in the Code shall be prima facie evidence that such installations are reasonably safe for persons and property. One (1) copy of the Code shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(c) Due to the unusual climatic conditions prevailing in and about the City, certain exceptions to the wiring methods and materials, as set forth in the National Electrical Code herein adopted, shall be made as listed in Section 18-231.

**Section 18-228. Equipment standards generally.**

(a) Conformity of electrical equipment with the applicable standards of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., shall be prima facie evidence that such equipment is reasonably safe to persons and property as it relates to the requirements of this ordinance.

(b) Only standard electrical parts and materials approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or by the Chief Building Official shall be permitted in electrical repair or maintenance work.

**Section 18-229. Sign standards generally.**

(a) All electrically illuminated or electrically powered outdoor and indoor signs and displays shall be safe to persons and property and in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance.

(b) Conformity of all types of electrical signs with applicable standards of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., and the National Electrical Code shall be prima facie evidence that such installations are reasonably safe to persons and property; provided that the provisions of this ordinance shall prevail in case of conflicting provisions.

(c) Conformity of construction, erection, foundation and means of support of all such signs with the International Building Code shall be approved by the Building Official before permits for electrical inspection shall be issued under the authority of this ordinance.

(d) A permit for an electrical sign must be obtained from the Building Official before any sign is installed.

**Section 18-230. Utility company rules and regulations.**

Rules and regulations for the company supplying electricity to the City, regarding service and meter installations for the kind and character of service to be rendered, as passed and approved by the City Council from time to time, in accordance with franchise provisions, are hereby referred to, incorporated herein, and made a part hereof.

**Section 18-231. Approved wiring methods, use thereof.**

Wiring methods approved by the National Electrical Code shall be used with the exceptions listed below:

(1) Any National Electrical Code approved method may be used for temporary work.

(2) In all commercial buildings, and all buildings used for commercial purposes, the following wiring methods are excluded from the approved methods, as listed in the National Electrical Code:

- (a) \*Article 398-Open wiring on insulators
- (b) \*Article 394-Concealed knob and tube work
- (c) Article 362-Electrical non-metallic tubing
- (d) \*Article 320-Armored Cable
- (e) Article 334-Non-metallic sheathed cable
- (f) \*Article 338-Service entrance cable
- (g) Article 339-Underground feeder and branch circuit cable

*\* Cannot be used in residential structures*

(3) The following equipment shall be installed on individual circuits:

- (a) Attic fan and heating unit.
- (b) Dishwasher.
- (c) Disposal.
- (d) Washing machine.
- (e) Dryer.
- (f) Water heaters and space heaters.
- (g) Ranges, built-in ranges, tops and ovens.

- (h) Air conditioning equipment.
- (i) Other types of equipment that requires special circuits.
- (j) Built-in microwave ovens.

(4) Low voltage wiring. All low voltage wiring and devices shall be installed according to the requirements of the National Electrical Code.

(5) Minimum size for underground conduit shall be 3/4" in diameter.

(6) Wiring in all residences and commercial structures shall be number 12 AWG copper conductors or larger.

(7) The bathroom branch circuits shall consist of one 20-ampere circuit per bathroom.

#### **Section 18-232. Main Disconnects.**

There shall be an outside main disconnect provided for all new commercial and residential structures.

#### **Section 18-233. Branch circuit protection.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to bridge, tamper with or change from its original installation, except upon the approval of the Chief Building Official, and then only after proper permit for alteration has been issued, any fuse of the plug, cartridge type or link type, installed in panel boards, main switches or switchboard, or to alter or change circuit breakers so that the original calibration will be affected, or to tie down or secure any circuit breaker so that it will not function properly.

#### **Section 18-234. Service clearances.**

Service clearances shall comply with the current requirements of "standard service practices" of the local utility company. Where these clearances are not covered by this standard, the National Electrical Code shall apply.

#### **Section 18-235. Temporary construction poles.**

Temporary poles shall comply with the requirements of the local utility company's standard service practices.

### **DIVISION 6. INSPECTIONS**

#### **Section 18-236. Certificate of approval required before connecting.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to make connections from a source of electrical energy to any electrical wiring, device or equipment on an installation for which a permit is required, as set forth in this ordinance, until a certificate of approval has been issued by the Chief Building Official authorizing such connection and the use of such wiring, devices or equipment.

#### **Section 18-237. Unauthorized connection after disconnection.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to make connections from a source of electrical energy to any electrical wiring, device or equipment which has been disconnected by order of the Chief Building Official, or the use of which has been prohibited for reasons herein set forth in Section 18-231.(2), until a certificate of approval has been issued by him authorizing the re-connection and use of such wiring, devices or equipment.

Whenever the service wires are once disconnected in any commercial building in the City limits the service shall not again be connected until the same has been wired so as to conform to this ordinance.

**Section 18-238. Rough work inspection, correcting faulty work, re-inspection.**

(a) *Notice, time, signing inspection tag.* When the rough wiring or installation work is completed on any premises, the responsible person therefore shall notify the Chief Building Official that the job is ready for inspection, giving proper identification of the work, address and permit number.

The Chief Building Official shall then make every reasonable effort to do an inspection of the electric installation within twenty-four (24) hours from the time of notification (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays). If the wiring or installation work has been installed in accordance with the terms and provisions of this ordinance, the Building Official shall sign the inspection tag, noting thereon the date of approval of the work. More than one rough inspection may be made without charge when the progress of construction requires such inspection.

(b) *Faulty work.* If the electric wiring or installation of fixtures or equipment is found to be faulty, incorrectly or defectively installed, the Chief Building Official shall notify the responsible person who installed such work of the changes necessary to be made in order that the work may conform to this ordinance.

(c) *Rectification of faulty work.* The responsible person shall, within forty-eight (48) hours from the time of notification, make or start to make the changes ordered and shall proceed with the work until the same is completed. Upon completion thereof and payment of the re-inspection fee, he shall notify the Chief Building Official to the effect that faulty work has been corrected. The latter shall then cause the re-inspection to be made and, if such work is found to comply with this ordinance, he shall sign the inspection card noting thereon the date of approval of the work. If the Chief Building Official shall again find the work incorrectly installed, he shall notify the responsible person of the necessary changes and that person shall pay an additional re-inspection fee to the City before any other inspections are made. If the responsible person does not make the required changes within a reasonable time, the Chief Building Official shall refuse to issue to any such person any further permits until such work in question is corrected and approved.

**Section 18-239. Final inspection.**

Upon the completion of all electrical wiring or installation of fixtures or equipment in any building or on any premises, the responsible person shall notify the Chief Building Official that the work is ready for final inspection, giving the electrical permit number and street address. The Chief Building Official shall make every reasonable effort to make the final inspection within twenty-four (24) hours from the time of receipt of notification (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) and, if any faulty or defective wiring or equipment is found, the responsible person shall be notified of the changes to be made in order that such work shall conform to this ordinance. If such work is found to be correctly installed, replaced or repaired, the electrical certificate shall state that the wiring or installation work has been installed in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. For each final inspection requested after the first has been made, a re-inspection fee shall be charged.

**Section 18-240. Leaving work open.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to cover, or cause to be covered, any part of a wiring installation with flooring, lath, wallboard or other material, until the Chief Building Official shall have approved the wiring installation, in part or as a whole.

**Section 18-241. Altering conductors or equipment; when interference with other work.**

It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to, in any manner, change or alter electrical conductors or equipment in or on any building. If, in the course of the erection of a building or structure, electrical conductors or equipment have previously been installed in such position as to interfere with the erection or completion of the structure, notice shall be immediately given the person using the electrical conductors or equipment, and he shall be required to accomplish this needed change in accordance with this ordinance.